

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 HA-05 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION
AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES - 31ST SESSION

REF: A. GENEVA 12931; B. GENEVA 12935; C. GENEVA 13105

1. DURING A.M. MEETING AUGUST 29 SUB-COMMISSION EXPERTS
AGREED UPON ORDER OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATED NUMBER
MEETINGS DEVOTED TO EACH ITEM (SEPTTEL). INITIALLY THE
CAMBODIA ITEM (9) WAS TO BE CONSIDERED DURING SECOND WEEK
OF THE SESSION. THIS WAS CHANGED AND ITEM IS NOW SCHEDULED
TO BE DISCUSSED SEPTEMBER 12.

2. FOLLOWING AGREEMENT OF THE SCHEDULE EXPERTS PROCEEDED
TO DEBATE ITEM 3 OF THE AGENDA: REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOP-
MENTS IN FIELDS WITH WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN
CONCERNED.

3. DURING THE DEBATE, WHICH CONTINUED INTO THE AFTERNOON,
SEVERAL EXPERTS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING A WORK-
ING GROUP TO DRAW UP A BODY OF PRINCIPLES ON ETHNIC, LIN-
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GUISTIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES. PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED
BY THOSE WHO NOTED THAT ISSUE IS NOW BEFORE THE HUMAN
RIGHTS COMMISSION AND FINAL INITIATIVES FOR DEALING WITH
THE PROBLEM WILL EVOLVE FROM THE SUB-COMMISSION'S PARENT
BODY.

4. FERRERO COSTA (PERU) RAISED THE ISSUE OF ECONOMIC,

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS VS. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND STATED THAT LATIN AMERICAN VIEWED ALL RIGHTS AS INDIVIDIBLE AND INTERDEPENDENT. HE STRESSED POINT THAT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL RIGHTS SHOULD NOT BE A PREREQUISITE FOR CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. POINTING OUT THAT THE ENFORCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEPENDS ON THE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT, FERRERO COSTA PROPOSED AN UPDATING OF THE GANJI REPORT WHICH IS FOCUSSED ON SOCIAL ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, FOR USE AS A GUIDE IN MOVING TOWARD MORE EFFECTIVE HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

5. SOHEILA SHAHKAR (IRAN) TEMPORARILY SUBSTITUTING FOR GANJI SUPPORTED FERRERO COSTA'S RECOMMENDATION TO UPDATE THE GANJI STUDY. SHAHKAR ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFER TO UNGA RES 32/130. SHE NOTED THAT SHE WAS A DRAFTER OF THE RESOLUTION AND COULD ASSURE THE S-C THAT ALL RIGHTS WERE GIVEN EQUAL PRIORITY. ACCORDING TO SHAHKAR SOME WESTERN STATES MISUNDERSTOOD THE RES AND DID NOT RECOGNIZE THAT IN 32/130 ALL RIGHTS WERE PRESENTED AS INDIVISIBLE AND INTERDEPENDENT.

6. SEVERAL EXPERTS RECOMMENDED THAT THE S-C PUSH FOR RATIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS WHILE OTHERS STRESSED THE NEED FOR STUDIES ON MIGRANT WORKERS AND IMMIGRANTS.

7. SINNGHVI (INDIA) PROPOSED STUDYING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND CHILDREN. THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS ECHOED BY WHITAKER (U.K.). IN ADDITION WHITAKER SUGGESTED THAT THE S-C CONSIDER STUDYING SUCH ISSUES AS A)RIGHTS OF MENTAL PATIENTS; B)RIGHT TO FAIR TRIAL; C)FAIR ELECTIONS; D)DEBT BONDAGE AND E)CHILD LABOR.

8. DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ITEM 4. - THIS ITEM WAS INTRODUCED BY PIERRE SANON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION, WHO FOCUSSED ATTENTION ON RECENTLY CONCLUDED CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND NOTED THE NEED TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SESSION'S DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION (REF A AND B). SANON CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY EXPRESSING HOPE THAT DIFFICULTIES AT THE CONFERENCE WERE PASSING DIFFICULTIES AND THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL WORK TOGETHER TO RID WORLD OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

9. KHALIFA (EGYPT) RECOMMENDED THAT THE WORLD CONFERENCE BE REVIEWED IN DEPTH, BUT NETTEL, EXPERT FROM AUSTRIA, SAID HE HESITATED TO DISCUSS THE MEETING SINCE THE S-C HAD NO ROLE MANDATED TO IT FROM THE CONFERENCE NOR FROM THE HRC. WARZAZI (MOROCCO) NOTED THAT DOCUMENT HAD NOT BEEN

THROUGH THE UNGA, A FACTOR PRECLUDING S-C DISCUSSION.

10. SINNGHVI (INDIA) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT MIGRANT WORKERS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WERE ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE S-C AND COULD BE DISCUSSED WHILE SADI (JORDAN) SAID S-C SHOULD BE GUIDED BY CONFERENCE DOCUMENT AND TAKE FULL NOTE OF EACH PARAGRAPH IN THE PLAN OF ACTION AND DECLARATION.

11. THE PROS AND CONS OF DEBATING WORLD CONFERENCE WILL CONTINUE DURING A.M. MEETING AUGUST 31. VANDEN HEUVEL

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